

## APPENDIX K

### Implementation Monitoring Results from the MNF Murderers Creek Allotment End-of-Year Grazing Reports for Years 2008-2010

#### Summary of 2008 Grazing Season

All 2008 livestock grazing use in all units was enjoined by the District Court of Oregon on May 16, 2008 in ONDA v. Kimbell, Civ. No. 07-1871. Cattle grazing did not occur in 2008. Limited photo and Multiple Indicator Monitoring took place on the allotment to determine impacts of wild horses. Concentrated use was evident in the Dan's Creek, Deer Creek, and Frenchy Butte units. These sites ranged in size from less than an acre to approximately 200 acres (in Frenchy Butte unit). Photo monitoring was conducted to document these areas of heavy use. While not all of these sites were representative of the overall condition of the allotment there are sites with significant impacts that could warrant the establishment of critical DMA's for future monitoring efforts. Thirty photo points were recorded; the photographs and UTM locations are available in the District 2210 files.

Dan's Creek, Deer Creek and Frenchy Butte units had utilization levels high enough that the possibility of grazing cattle in these units would be very limited or eliminated entirely.

Multiple Indicator Monitoring took place at 7 established DMA's. Of these sites, 2 exceeded streambank alteration standards. DMA's in the Martin Corrals, Frenchy Butte and John Young Meadows units had 4%, 5% and 8% use respectively. This level of bank alteration is high enough that with the addition of cattle, bank alteration standards would likely be exceeded.

Monitoring results for the Murderers Creek allotment show that it is critical that wild horse numbers are reduced to appropriate management levels to successfully graze cattle and meet allowable use standards.

In addition, the permittee has provided the District with monitoring data collected throughout the allotment. This data has yet to be assessed.

Permit Administration monitoring occurred on June 6, 2008. Multiple Indicator Monitoring occurred on September 11, October 6 and 7, and November 3, 2008. End of Season (wild horse use) monitoring occurred on September 6 and 8, and October 4, 5, and 7, 2008.

Unit	Monitoring Locations	Utilization of herbaceous hydrophytic species	Utilization of riparian woody shrubs	Utilization of grass and non-hydrophytic plant species	Streambank Alteration <i>See '07-'11 NOAA BiOp @ page 242.</i>	Comments
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Unit	Monitoring Locations	Utilization of herbaceous hydrophytic species		Utilization of riparian woody shrubs		Utilization of grass and non-hydrophytic plant species		Streambank Alteration <i>See '07-'11 NOAA BiOp @ page 242.</i>		Comments
<b><i>Lazy H CC Permit</i></b>		Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	
<b>Dan's Creek</b>	11 4899608  0316377	6" stubble height	Not Monitored due to injunction	Light to moderate hedging	Not Monitored due to injunction	45% use	30%	10%	Not Monitored due to injunction	
<b>Martin Corral</b>	Thorn Cr. Integrator DMA # 1	6" stubble height	18"	Light to moderate hedging	None to Slight	45% use	Not Monitored due to injunction	10%	5%	
	Thorn Cr. PIBO DMA # 1	6" stubble height	12"	Light to moderate hedging	None to Slight	45% use	Not Monitored due to injunction	10%	0%	
<b>Oregon Mine</b>		6" stubble height	Not Monitored due to injunction	Light to moderate hedging	Not Monitored due to injunction	45% use	Not Monitored due to injunction	10%	Not Monitored due to injunction	
<b>Red Rocks</b>		6" stubble height	Not Monitored due to injunction	Light to moderate hedging	Not Monitored due to injunction	45% use	Not Monitored due to injunction	10%	Not Monitored due to injunction	
<b><i>DGA Permit</i></b>		Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	
<b>Murderers Creek Holding</b>	Murderers Creek DMA # 1	6" stubble height	18"	Light to moderate hedging	None to Slight	45% use	Not Monitored due to injunction	10%	2%	
<b>Timber Mountain</b>	Crazy Creek Riparian	6" stubble height	Not Monitored due to injunction	Light to moderate hedging	Not Monitored due to injunction	45% use	Not Monitored due to injunction	10%	Not Monitored due to injunction	

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<b>Deer Creek</b>	Deer Creek MIM DMA #1	6" stubble height	12"	Light to moderate hedging	None to Slight	45% use	38%	10%	15%	
	Deer Creek PIBO DMA #2	6" stubble height	14"	Light to moderate hedging	Slight to Light	45% use	Not Monitored due to injunction	10%	13%	
<b>Frenchy Butte</b>	Frenchy Butte DMA #1	6" stubble height	11"	Light to moderate hedging	None to Slight	45% use	86%	10%	4%	Extremely heavy use by horses in a large area at head of Antelope Creek.
<b>Horse Mountain</b>	South Fork Murderers Creek	6" stubble height	Not Monitored due to injunction	Light to moderate hedging	Not Monitored due to injunction	45% use	Not Monitored due to injunction	10%	Not Monitored due to injunction	
<b>John Young Meadows</b>	MIM DMA #1	6" stubble height	16"	Light to moderate hedging	None to Slight	45% use	Not Monitored due to injunction	10%	8%	
<b>Blue Ridge</b>		6" stubble height	Not Monitored due to injunction	Light to moderate hedging	Not Monitored due to injunction	45% use	Not Monitored due to injunction	10%	Not Monitored due to injunction	

### Management Recommendations:

Conduct Wild Horse gathers until the Appropriate Management Level is reached.

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### Summary of 2009 Grazing Season

John Young Meadows and Timber Mountain were the only pastures grazed this season. Blue Ridge/Lucera was not grazed by cattle due to bank alteration reaching 20% prior to turn-out by wild ungulates. Cattle were moved off the allotment after 4 days in the John Young Meadows pasture. Stubble height measurements were not collected in the Timber Mountain pasture because the greenline is comprised of rock making it an unsuitable location to collect stubble height.

In August, 77 wildhorses were removed from the territory through a helicopter gather. Another gather conducted by local contractors has removed an additional 20 wildhorses from the territory. Gather operations will continue as long as weather permits in an effort to capture and remove another 20 wildhorses.

End of Season monitoring occurred on November 15, 16, and 29, 2009

Pasture	Monitoring Locations	Utilization of herbaceous hydrophytic species Stubble Height (inches)		Utilization of riparian woody shrubs (Hedging)		Utilization of grass and non-hydrophytic plant species (Percent Use)		Streambank Alteration <i>See '07-'11 NOAA BiOp @ page 242.</i> (Percent)		Comments
<b><i>Lazy H CC Permit</i></b>		Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	
<b>Dan's Creek</b>		6	Not Monitored	Light to moderate	Not Monitored	45	Not Monitored	10	Not Monitored	NON-USE
<b>Martin Corrals</b>	Thorn Cr. PIBO DMA # 1	6	Not Monitored	Light to moderate	Not Monitored	45	Not Monitored	10	Not Monitored	NON-USE
<b>Oregon Mine</b>		6	Not Monitored	Light to moderate	Not Monitored	45	Not Monitored	10	Not Monitored	NON-USE
<b>Red Rocks</b>		6	Not Monitored	Light to moderate	Not Monitored	45	Not Monitored	10	Not Monitored	NON-USE

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<b>DGA Permit</b>		Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	
<b>Murderers Creek Holding</b>	Murderers Creek DMA # 1	6	Not Monitored	Light to moderate	Not Monitored	45	Not Monitored	10	Not Monitored	NON-USE
<b>Timber Mountain</b>	Crazy Creek Riparian #1	6	N/A	Light to moderate	Light	45	26	10	3	
<b>Deer Creek</b>	Deer Creek MIM DMA #1	6	14	Light to moderate	Slight to Light	45	Not Measured	10	3	NON-USE
	Deer Creek PIBO DMA #2	6	17	Light to moderate	Slight to Light	45	Not Measured	10	10	NON-USE
<b>Frenchy Butte</b>	Frenchy Butte DMA #1	6	14	Light to moderate	None to Slight	45	Not Measured	10	8	NON-USE
<b>Horse Mountain</b>		6	Not Monitored	Light to moderate	Not Monitored	45	Not Monitored	10	Not Monitored	NON-USE
<b>John Young Meadows</b>	MIM DMA #1	6	18	Light to moderate	None to Slight	45	Not Measured	10	3	
<b>Blue Ridge</b>		6	Not Measured	Light to moderate	Not Measured	45	Not Measured	10	20	NON-USE

### **Management Recommendations:**

Continue wildhorse gather operations until the Allowable Management Level (AML) is reached.

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### **Summary of 2010 Grazing Season**

The Dayville Grazing Association waived their permit to two of its members, Loren and Piper Stout and Chet Hettinga. The following pastures were grazed in 2010; Timber Mountain and Blue Ridge, and Frenchy Butte, Deer Creek, and John Young Meadows. Pre-season monitoring occurred on Frenchy Butte, Deer Creek, and Blue Ridge. Wild horse use and their concentration areas are considerably less than in previous years. A concentration area was identified on Vester Creek in the Frenchy Butte pasture as needing electric fencing to provide further protection from wildhorse use and to exclude cattle use. Another location on a tributary to the S. Fork Deer Creek in the Deer Creek pasture was also excluded from livestock through the use of electric fencing. The Blue Ridge pasture had significant wild horse use in the Blue Creek drainage and the permittee was instructed to keep cattle out of the area as well as limiting cattle in Bark Cabin Creek. No sign of cattle was observed in Blue Creek, except on the extreme lower end of the pasture where a gate had been left open and cattle from the Frenchy Butte pasture had entered. Cattle were only noted in the upper headwaters of Bark Cabin Creek near an instream pond.

A new fence was constructed in the Timber Mtn pasture to exclude livestock access to the mouth of Crazy Creek and the S. Fork Murderers Creek. As a result, riparian monitoring was not conducted at the DMA on the S. Fork Murderers Creek. Riparian monitoring was not conducted in the Blue Ridge pasture as no suitable locations have been identified. Use was limited to an area near an instream pond and isolated crossings on Blue Creek. Blue Creek is heavily protected by shrubs with only limited access at crossings.

End of season streambank alteration in the Deer Creek pasture at DMA 2 measured 11% which is greater than the 10% standard. However, all other standards were met at the site and streambank stability measured 90%. Mid-season monitoring conducted at this site also measured 11% streambank alteration. At the request of the permittee the site was re-measured and streambank alteration measured 6%. The variance between mid-season readings is likely due to the presence of 3 trail crossings within the DMA transect. When reading a transect, an observer can easily pace past a crossing or pace within the crossing. If the monitoring frame falls completely within a crossing the observer records the maximum alteration for the plot. The Deer Creek DMA 2 data sheets reflect the presence of the crossings and show very few alterations outside of the crossing locations. Overall this DMA is dominated by thick stands of alder and access for cattle is limited to the crossings. Additionally, these trails are also used by wildlife and wild horses. Based upon this information, the standards have not been exceeded by cattle and no modification or impacts to critical habitat have occurred.

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End of Season monitoring occurred on September 27 and 29, 2010.

Pasture	Monitoring Locations	Utilization of herbaceous hydrophytic species Stubble Height (inches)		Utilization of riparian woody shrubs (Hedging)		Utilization of grass and non-hydrophytic plant species (Percent Use)		Streambank Alteration <i>See '07-'11 NOAA BiOp @ page 242.</i> (Percent)		Comments
		Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	Standard	Measured	
<b>Dan's Creek</b>		6	Not Monitored	Light to moderate	Not Monitored	45	Not Monitored	10	Not Monitored	NON-USE
<b>Martin Corrals</b>	Thorn Cr. PIBO DMA 1 Greenline	6	Not Monitored	Light to moderate	Not Monitored	45	Not Monitored	10	Not Monitored	NON-USE
<b>Oregon Mine</b>		6	Not Monitored	Light to moderate	Not Monitored	45	Not Monitored	10	Not Monitored	NON-USE
<b>Red Rocks</b>		6	Not Monitored	Light to moderate	Not Monitored	45	Not Monitored	10	Not Monitored	NON-USE
<b>Murderers Creek Holding</b>	Murderers Creek DMA 1 Greenline	6	Not Monitored	Light to moderate	Not Monitored	45	Not Monitored	10	Not Monitored	NON-USE
<b>Timber Mountain</b>	Upland	6	N/A	Light to moderate	N/A	45	35	10	N/A	
<b>Deer Creek</b>	Deer Creek MIM DMA 1 Greenline	6	15	Light to moderate	Slight	45	14	10	1	
	Deer Creek PIBO DMA 2 Greenline	6	12	Light to moderate	Slight	45	26	10	11	
	Upland	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	45	48	N/A	N/A	
<b>Frenchy Butte</b>	Deer Creek DMA 1 Greenline & Upland	6	*insufficient sample size due to the amount of shrubs	Light to moderate	All shrubs unavailable to livestock grazing	45	30	10	6	
<b>Horse</b>		6	Not	Light to	Not	45	Not	10	Not	NON-USE

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<b>Mountain</b>			Monitored	moderate	Monitored		Monitored		Monitored	
<b>John Young Meadows</b>	SF Murderers Cr MIM DMA 1 Greenline	6	20	Light to moderate	Slight	45		10	6	
<b>Blue Ridge</b>		6	Not Monitored	Light to moderate	Not Monitored	45	30	10	Not Monitored	